

# You are ambassadors in Australia

By Capt. Dan Cloyd  
Executive Officer

Standards of conduct are really simple.

Exemplary conduct ashore is the way we will all behave when we hit the beach here in a few days. As you know, whenever we're overseas, those seemingly minor incidents that would be considered small back home have the potential to become tremendous international incidents, depending on what happens and who it happens to.

So we all have to understand that our standards of conduct ashore, how we behave and how we interact, not only amongst ourselves but also with the local host nationals, is critical.

The key to this is the use and, I'll say, the responsible use of alcohol. The drinking age in Australia is 18, which means the vast majority of the crew, essentially the entire crew and those embarked aboard Abraham Lincoln, will have the opportunity to enjoy the local wines and spirits while "down under."

Responsible, mature use of alcohol is an absolute must. Public intoxication and drunkenness is a non-starter, and there's no blood alcohol limit, or quantitative assessment of what that means. It's a judgement call from the leadership, the shore patrol, or whoever the senior person on the scene is.

If they feel that you've abused alcohol in some way, shape or form, your liberties will be terminated. You'll be brought back to the ship, and probably be looked at by the liberty risk board the next morning, which I chair. Your liberty will probably be curtailed for the remainder of the port visit and possibly port visits thereafter.

So please, don't put me in the situation of having to curtail your liberty in what are generally considered the two finest port visits in the world.

The "buddy system" will be mandatory for Abraham Lincoln Sailors while ashore. What that means is you must have somebody with you or be with

somebody while ashore. It's fundamental for what we do. We take care of each other, whether we're at sea or on shore, wherever we are and whatever we're doing.

Liberty logs will be mandatory, so be sure you're signing out with your department or squadron as appropriate. When we do our musters in the morning, we'll be mustering both oncoming and offgoing duty sections. Using that and the liberty logs, we have to be able to account for 100 percent of the crew and those embarked aboard Abraham Lincoln. This way we know where people are, and if we need to get hold of you for any reason while you're ashore, we'll know how to do that.

E-3's and below have to be in line at the fleet landing by midnight. Based on the determination of the leadership, for those of the highest standing of maturity, reliability, judgement, and demonstrated exceptional performance, liberty may be extended to 2 a.m. In addition, those who have submitted a chit saying they desire to have overnight liberty still have to be back into their hotels by 2 a.m. There should be no E-3 and below out on the streets by 2 a.m. The rest of the crew, E-4 and above, have overnight liberty throughout the port visit, having only to muster in the mornings for their applicable duty days.

The final night, Jan. 16, liberty expiration for E-3 and below is 11 p.m., E-4 and E-5 at 12 a.m., and E-6 and above at 1 a.m.

The line coming back to the ship at fleet landing will be tagged at the appropriate time, and those who show up late may be addressed as a liberty risk issue.

E-3 and below with the 2 a.m. expiration plan will be discerned from the rest by a green ID sticker that will replace their white one. We'll keep those stickers through Hobart as well.

For the first day out, until 2 a.m. Feb. 13, the crew will be in service dress whites for E-6 and below and summer



white for E-7 and above. It's a great tradition that this ship participates in, and it's a great way to hit port. I'll guarantee you'll be thankful we did this.

Following that, shifting into our civilian attire, the standard restrictions still apply, but males are also required to wear a collared shirt to leave the ship. Also, 100 percent ID checks are the standard aboard our ship, so be prepared. Make sure you have your ID at all times.

**(See Standards Pg. 4)**

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